

2004-5 Report of Accomplishments Underwood Conservation District



Natural Resource Improvements in 2004-5 - Summary

- *Maintenance of 9,100 feet of fence* in Rattlesnake creek drainage
- *Planting of 2,760 trees* under Cost-share program in the White Salmon watersheds, and via Wind River BPA Contract.
- *Continued removal work on 27 acres of scotch broom* along the Wind River.
- *Water Quality Monitoring* on 31 sites within the White Salmon and Wind River Watersheds.
- *Sale of 24,000 trees* to landowners under District Tree Sales Program
- *Distribution of 1,700 free trees* on Arbor Day 2005.
- *Technical Assistance and Engineering Survey Assistance* to 76 Landowners in the District
- *Repair of one eroding headcut, Klickitat Watershed.*



*Headcut repair on Snyder creek,
Klickitat Watershed*

Mission of the Underwood Conservation District

The Underwood Conservation District's goal is to enhance the level of natural resource stewardship exercised by landowners, managers and resource users in the district. The actual programs used by the UCD to accomplish the stewardship goal can be divided into four main categories:

- *Direct conservation action,*
- *Facilitation of conservation action through providing technical assistance and cost-sharing opportunities to landowners,*
- *Promoting better stewardship by conducting citizen involvement and environmental education projects and,*
- *Monitoring of project enactment and environmental results for purposes of measuring progress and adapting programs to meet changing needs.*

Water Quality Implementation

- *Planting of 1,420 trees* under Cost-share program in the White Salmon and Klickitat watersheds that help shade district streams.
- *Maintenance of 9,100 feet of fence* in Rattlesnake creek drainage, helping control cattle access to the creek and enhancing water quality.
- *Coordination of 14 meetings* of Jewett Creek Streamkeepers and White Salmon River Watershed Management Committees, providing forums for information exchange, project review, and landowner education.
- *Monthly monitoring of 4 piezometers,* shallow ground-water wells, in upper Snyder creek watershed (Klickitat River).

Bonneville Power Administration Rattlesnake Creek Contract (Salmonid Restoration)

- *Monitoring water temperature at 16 sites* within the White Salmon watershed.
- *Monitoring water chemistry at 17 sites* within the White Salmon watershed.
- *Continuing monitoring and development of a rating curve* for the new gauging station.
- *Monitoring background levels of carbon isotopes at five sites* in Rattlesnake creek.
- *Monthly monitoring of 8 piezometers,* shallow ground-water wells, in upper Rattlesnake creek watershed.

Bonneville Power Administration Wind River Contract (Salmonid Restoration)

- *Facilitation of 10 meetings of the Wind River Watershed Council*, a local stakeholder group.
 - *Facilitation of 4 meetings of the White Salmon/Wind River Technical Advisory Group*, a Technical committee supporting local stakeholder groups.
 - *Continuous monitoring of water temperature at 10 sites* within the Wind River watershed.
 - *Continuing control of scotch broom on 27 acres* along the Wind River.
 - *Interplanting approximately 11 acres with 1,340 trees* along the Wind River.
 - *Monitoring reforestation efforts* from this year and past years, via photo documentation and on-the-ground surveys.
 - *Accomplishing photo documentation monitoring* of Stabler Cut-bank stability project.
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Professional Engineering and Technical Assistance

- *Preparing preliminary bank stabilization plans* for two landowners in the Wind River valley.
 - *Provided Technical Assistance to 76 landowners* including phone calls, visits, drop-in visitors, 21 on-site visits for detailed assistance, and 11 written reports.
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Community Collaboration & Coordination

- *Coordination of 4 Stakeholder or Technical Advisory Groups involving 28 meetings* providing for information exchange, education, and project review opportunities.
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Information & Education

- *Maintained a Composting Demonstration Site*, teaching local landowners about methods of composting, in cooperation with Klickitat County.
- *Hosted one Fire Awareness session*, helping landowners to become aware of methods to protect their property from wildfire.
- *Participated in three local Community Fairs*, White Salmon Springfest, HUGS (Help Us Grow Safely) Fair and Skamania County Fair, dispensing information about the District and soliciting input and projects from District residents.
- *Assisted local schools in Water Quality Education Efforts*. UCD assisted Whitson Elementary School in White Salmon, and Wind River Middle School in Carson, in water quality monitoring efforts by students, enhancing student understanding and awareness of water quality values.
- *Sold 24,000 trees to District landowners* under the District's annual Tree Sales program.
- *Distributed 1,700 free trees to 160 landowners* during Arbor Day, 2005, increasing local awareness of the importance of trees in Conservation.
- *Sponsored one Tree Identification workshop*, helping participants learn identification of native trees, building appreciation for landscapes that promote water quality.
- *Sponsored one Wind River Watershed Open House* featuring various groups and agencies, with displays of their work efforts in the Wind River Watershed.

Washington Conservation Districts
assisting land managers with their conservation choices